

**OPENING STATEMENT**

**THE HONORABLE JERRY F. COSTELLO**

**COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE**

**HEARING**

**AN EXAMINATION OF HR 3890, A BILL  
TO AUTHORIZE THE METALS PROGRAMS AT THE  
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**

**May 20, 2004**

Good morning. I want to thank the witnesses for appearing before our committee to discuss HR 3890, a bill to reauthorize energy efficiency research and development at the Department of Energy to support the domestic metals industry.

H.R. 3890, introduced by my colleague Melissa Hart, would establish metal research and development funding for the next five years. The bill provides federal incentives for public-private research and development projects in an effort to increase the energy efficiency and competitiveness of the U.S. metals industry.

As a member of the Steel Caucus, this funding would allow the continuation of the steel research and development that has led to significant technological and economical benefits and advancement. Further, I believe important investments like this will assist in maintaining much-needed jobs.

I want to thank the witnesses for appearing before this committee and look forward to their testimony.